

VOCAB LIST FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR

1) Opportunist (p. 10 of 7th Grade Reader -- bottom left hand corner)

- a) Someone who ignores what is morally right and instead takes advantage of a situation for his own gain.
- b) noun
- c) The burglar was an opportunist, sneaking into people's homes when he knew they were away.

2) Tremble (p. 10 of 7th Grade Reader -- bottom left hand corner)

- a) to shake involuntarily, typically as a result of nervousness or excitement
- b) verb
- c) My brother was trembling with excitement when he learned we were taking a family vacation to Disney World.

#3 Signify (p. 26 of 7th Grade Reader)

- a) to be a sign of
- b) verb
- c) The lighting of the Olympic torch at the host city signifies the games have begun.

#4 Fortify (p. 28 of Reader)

- a) to strengthen a place by building military defenses (walls, trenches, etc.)
- b) verb
- c) The Americans needed to fortify the base when they heard there were enemy fighters nearby.

#5 Loathing (p. 32 -- Reader)

- a) an intense feeling of disgust or dislike; hatred
- b) noun
- c) The feeling of loathing was impossible for the hero to escape when in the company of her mortal enemy.

#6 Aloof (p. 33 -- Reader)

- a) not involved with or friendly toward people; cold and distant
- b) adjective
- c) The Akita dog breed is known for being aloof and independent; it does not seek out affection from its owners very often.

#7: Defer (ARITS)

- a) To put off or delay
- b) Verb
- c) The person deferred admission to college for a year, so he started school in the Fall of 2011.

#8: Fester (ARITS)

- a) To rot or wither
- b) Verb
- c) The wound festered on Jim's foot for weeks after he punctured it on a nail.

#9 Disheveled (p. 25 -- *A Raisin in the Sun*)

- a) Untidy; messy (usually about a person's hair, clothing, or appearance)
- b) Adjective
- c) Cynthia looked completely disheveled as she arrived home from a very long day at work.

#10 Indifferent (p. 26 and 27 -- ARITS)

- a) Having no particular interest or sympathy; unconcerned
- b) Adjective
- c) I watched the football game so I could be with my friends; I was indifferent about who would win the game.

#11 Assimilation (p. 63...sort of)

- a) The process of absorbing one cultural group with another
- b) Noun
- c) Beneatha rejects the notion that she has taken part in assimilation simply because she does not keep her natural hair style.

#12 Insincere (p. 100 -- at the bottom)

- a) not expressing true feelings
- b) Adjective
- c) Rob's apology was insincere -- he only said he was sorry because his mom forced him to do so.

#13 Strident (p. 110 -- ARITS)

- a) loud and harsh; hard on the ears
- b) adjective
- c) The presenter was losing patience with his rude audience members, and his voice became increasingly strident when speaking to them.

#14 Exuberant (p. 110 -- ARITS)

- a) filled with energy and excitement
- b) adjective
- c) My brother and I were exuberant about the new season of our favorite show, *Seinfeld*.

#15 Right (not from a text)

- a) a freedom that cannot be denied to any person
- b) noun
- c) "I have a right to explain my side of the story if I want to!" the man explained to his lawyer.

#16 Prejudice (not from a text)

- a) an unjustifiable opinion about a group, a race, or an individual for their supposed characteristics
- b) noun
- c) The taxi driver was accused of prejudice when he ignored a Latino hailing a cab and picked up the white person standing right next to him instead.

#17 Eccentric (p. 10)

- a. unusual; peculiar; unconventional
- b. adjective
- c. My neighbor is a bit eccentric; he owns twelve cats, only wears mismatched shoes, and talks with a British accent when he grew up in Missouri.

#18 Malevolent (p. 10)

- a. having or showing a wish to do evil to others
- b. adjective
- c. Professor Snape looked at Harry with a malevolent glare when Harry defeated Malfoy once again.

#19 Assuage (p. 3 -- TKAM)

- a) to put an end to whatever bothered/worried you
- b) verb
- c) I assuaged my thirst when I bought myself a Gatorade.

#20 Fruitless (p. 43 -- TKAM)

- a) not achieving the desired results; useless
- b) adjective
- c) Despite having friends in the movie business, John's pursuit of acting was ultimately fruitless.

#21 Ascertain (p. 81 -- TKAM)

- a. to find (something) out for sure; to make certain of
- b. verb
- c. The police chief ascertained the cause of the crime by studying all of

the footage from the security tapes.

#22 Cordial (p. 97 -- TKAM)

- a. warm and friendly
- b. adjective
- c. My brother and I used to fight all of the time, but our relationship has become more cordial as we have gotten older.

#23 Recitation (not in text)

- a) the action of repeating something aloud from memory
- b) noun
- c) The student's recitation of the Declaration of Independence was flawless -- she did not miss a single word.

24 Assiduous (not in a text)

- a) showing great care and effort
- b) adjective
- c) The student's assiduous approach to his recitation assignment helped him earn a strong grade.

#25 Formidable (p. 213 -- TKAM)

- a. inspiring fear or respect because of being strong, powerful, or talented at something
- b. adjective
- c. Muhammad Ali is considered one of the all-time greatest boxers because he defeated many formidable opponents.

#26 Elucidate (p. 213 -- TKAM)

- a. to make something clear; explain
- b. verb
- c. Mr. Freeman elucidated the new concept when he saw the confusion on his students' faces.

#27 Inquisitive (p. 65 -- TKAM)

- a) Curious, often about others' lives or affairs
- b) adjective
- c) My inquisitive cousin is constantly asking questions at every family function.

#28 Asinine (p. 65 -- TKAM)

- a) extremely stupid or foolish
- b) adjective
- c) The result of the contest was asinine -- they said I had lost even though I had clearly won.

#29 Feeble (p. 118 -- TKAM)

- a) lacking in force or effectiveness; weak
- b) adjective
- c) When students are caught chewing gum, they often use the feeble and overused excuse, "I was chewing on my tongue."

#30 Passe (p. 132 -- TKAM)

- a) out of fashion or out of style
- b) adjective
- c) Although iPods were really popular, some people think they are passe because iPhones have become all the rage.